

*Minutes of the regular meeting of the Municipal Authority of the Borough of Derry held in the Authority office at 620 N. Chestnut Street, Derry, PA on Wednesday, February 21, 2018.*

*The meeting was called to order at 7:00 o'clock, p.m. with the following members answering the Roll Call: Mr. Kevin M. Quinlisk, Chairman; Mr. Peter A. Checca, Secretary; Mr. Richard K. Thomas, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer. Daniel D. Chaney Sr., who is newly appointed to the Board was also at tonight's meeting. Mr. Fred Goodman, Treasurer was absent from tonight's meeting. Also, in attendance were Authority Manager, Amy Forsha and Engineer, Mark Gera of Gibson-Thomas Engineering and Solicitor Samuel Dalfonso Esq., of Dodaro, Matta, and Cambest.*

*On a motion by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Checca the minutes of the regular meeting of January 17, 2018 were presented for approval and all members voted in favor.*

#### *Visitors*

*Nick Cammuso of the Latrobe Bulletin was in attendance. Melissa Hughes, John Hughes, Dave Hyatt, and Bob Hyatt were also in attendance to discuss a frozen water service line at 421 Broad Street. Melissa Hughes stated she was without water for 9 days due to a frozen service line. Mrs. Hughes stated that she never had a frozen service line on her side and stated that her issues were all caused by a frozen service line on the Authority side. Mrs. Hughes passed out a very detailed report regarding her account of her 9 days without water. Mr. and Mrs. Hughes requested reimbursement for the fees she incurred due to hiring a contractor to dig up her service line as well as assurance that the Authority would do a final repair on her driveway. Melissa Hughes also stated the patch in the driveway has sunk 6 inches and needs additional cold patch. Solicitor Dalfonso explained to Mr. and Mrs. Hughes that the Authority could not openly discuss the situation with her because it is a matter pending litigation. Mr. Dalfonso explained to Mr. and Mrs. Hughes that the Board would discuss the issue in executive session and then Mr. Dalfonso would contact her attorney with their response.*

#### *Correspondence*

*Mrs. Forsha presented a letter from Sara Poole of 5519 Route 982 who requested relief due to a high water bill from a leak. On a motion by Mr. Quinlisk and seconded by Mr. Thomas all members voted to grant Ms. Poole a 50% credit on her leak. Next, Mrs. Forsha presented a letter from Mr. and Mrs. Wilson of 115 East Street who requested a relief for a high water bill that they received in December caused by a leaking main shut of valve. After review, on a motion by Mr. Chaney and seconded by Mr. Checca the Board all voted in favor of granting a \$50 credit on the leak. Next, Mrs. Forsha presented a request from Derry School to utilize the Ethel Lake trail as part of an upcoming 5k on May 19, 2018. After discussion, the Board agreed to permit the school to utilize the trail as long as the resurfacing takes place before the race. There are many washouts on the trail that are in need of repair. Mrs. Forsha is going to coordinate the resurfacing with the trail committee members.*

*Water Bills for January 2018 in the amount of \$142,760.89 and Sewer Bills in the amount of \$61,577.09 were presented for payment. On a motion put forth by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Quinlisk, all members voted to pay the bills.*

*The Water Treasurer's Report showing a checking account balance on December 31, 2017 of \$67,237.05 with deposits of \$113,986.02 and less expenses of \$142,760.89 leaving a reconciled balance of \$38,464.18 for January 31, 2018 was presented by Mrs. Forsha. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was offered by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Chaney. All members voted to accept the treasurer's report, as presented.*

*Next Mrs. Forsha presented the Sewer Treasurer's Report showing a checking account balance on December 31, 2017 of \$109,476.89 with deposits of \$7,454.24 and less expenses of \$61,577.09 leaving a reconciled balance of \$55,354.04 for January 31, 2018. Mr. Thomas moved and seconded by Mr. Chaney to accept the treasurer's report and attach the same as an exhibit and that the same be incorporated by reference and be made part of these minutes. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously approved.*

*The Manager's Water & Sewer Reports were presented by Mrs. Forsha. Included in her detailed monthly reports, Manager Forsha commented on the condition of Ethel Lake and the total gallons of potable water pumped for last month. The costs associated with operating the pump house and the sewage plant were announced and also included was an equipment report on mileage and fuel consumption. The finished water turbidity reading of .020 NTU was also announced.*

#### *Board Reorganization*

*Due to a change in Board members, the Board decided to reorganize. Mr. Thomas nominated a new slate of officers for the year 2018. The nominations were as follows: Chairman: Mr. Kevin M. Quinlisk, Vice Chairman: Mr. Peter A. Checca, Secretary: Mr. Fred A. Goodman, Treasurer: Mr. Richard K. Thomas, and Asst. Sec./Treas.: Mr. Daniel D. Chaney Sr. Mr. Kevin M. Quinlisk seconded the motion and all other members voted in favor of the reorganization.*

*Next, Mr. Thomas welcomed Mr. Chaney to the Board and offered to take him on a tour of the Authority's properties.*

#### *The Engineers Report*

*Mr. Glasser informed the Board that the pumphouse electrical upgrade permit amendment application has been submitted to the DEP. Mr. Quinlisk made a motion and Mr. Thomas seconded with all members voting in favor of authorizing Gibson-Thomas to begin preliminary design of a sludge press building. The Board discussed designing a building that the existing press could be moved into, and then look at purchasing another press once grant funding is available. Next, Mr. Chaney stated that he was a master plumber and used to do work at WSSC (Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission). Next, the Board discussed various ways other municipalities are disposing of sludge. Mr. Gera also announced that the PA Small Water and Sewer Program Grant from the Community Financing Agency for the North Chestnut Street Waterline Replacement was submitted to the DCED. Next, on a motion by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Checca all members voted to accept GeoMechanics quote in the amount of \$32,902.50 with all members voting in favor of the quote for the stability analysis of the Upper and Lower Ridge Dams.*

### *The Solicitor's Report*

*Mr. Dalfonso informed the Board that he received correspondence from Melissa Hughes attorney and will review it with them in executive session.*

### *Water Old Business*

*Next, Mrs. Forsha presented each member with a copy of the 2017 Audit report that was just completed by Rennie and Associates.*

### *Water Department New Business*

*Mr. Thomas made a motion to approve Resolution #187 honoring Thomas E. Sylvester for his thirty-nine years of service on the Authority Board. Mr. Quinlisk seconded with all members voting in favor. Mrs. Forsha also informed the Board about upcoming Board member training on March 7<sup>th</sup>. In addition, Mrs. Forsha announced that a partial DEP inspection was conducted on the water side to ensure that the Authority still had certified operators despite the retirement of three of our operators last year. Next, Mrs. Forsha informed the Board that 280 ft of 2.5 CLCI from 1955 was replaced on West First Ave near the Borough garage due to frequent leaks. Mrs. Forsha also informed the Board that an electrical/programming issue caused the Mowry pump station to be down for a number of hours on January 16<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Forsha informed the Board that repairs were completed. Next, Mr. Quinlisk read a prepared statement, "I have been a Municipal Authority board member for 7 years and although I was reluctant to apply for the position I felt I should do what I can to help our community. I have been a Derry Borough resident for most of my life and current Chairman of the MABD Board. Although I do want what is best for my community I was appointed to represent ALL of our customers (Both Borough and Twp). Therefore, I feel it is necessary to speak out about what I see going on. Recently, Council has appointed two of their members to our 5-member Board. The latest was the replacement of a member with 39 years experience on the MABD Board, who in my time on the Board has always done what he felt was best for the Authority and its customers. With Council's latest actions I can only assume they plan to take control of the Borough and Township water/sewer system and its finances. My term will be up in December and I believe that I will be the next to be replaced. This will essentially give Borough Council voting control of the Authority. I know the borough is in financial trouble and is looking for revenue. Over the years we (MABD Board) have tried to work with Borough Council to help the community. Whether it was our donation of water to the Borough's community pool every year, plowing sidewalks on the bridge until we no longer had a tractor to do so, reluctantly taking on the BOROUGH's sanitary sewer system (and its debt) when it wasn't in the Authority's best interest and even our latest offer to accept the management and maintenance of the BOROUGH's stormwater system. Yet, this doesn't seem to be enough. Instead of looking inward on what they can do to run the Borough more efficiently, and making the tough decisions that go along with that. They seem to put their attention outward as to where they can find money to spend for things they can't afford! Their first attempt was to put us (MABD) up for sale. I don't know if it was the backlash from customers that became too much or they realized after all was said and done they wouldn't have the money they were hoping for. Either way I've been told that plan has been dropped. It seems the next plan of action by Council is to not reinstate current members of the Municipal Authority who put the solvency of the Authority first and instead appoint their own Council members to our Board. For as long as I've been on the Board we have always made decisions that we believed were the best for our water/sewer system and our*

*customers. I know Borough Council has a legal right to appoint whomever they like but, in my opinion, what they are doing is wrong and unethical. I believe they are trying to take control and use the MABD as their own personal cash cow. We have always tried to run the Authority in a responsible businesslike way and are currently fiscally sound. Once Council has control I believe they will do all they can through the Authority to alleviate their financial woes and not do what is best for all of our customers. As an appointed member, I know that there isn't anything I can do to stop what they are doing. I can however, let it be known to the voters and our customers the actions that the Borough Council is making."*

*Sewer Department Old Business*

*Mrs. Forsha informed the Board that she has hired Rich Santella to replace 100ft of 12" terracotta sewer line along W First Ave. In addition, Mrs. Forsha stated that a joint storm water meeting was held on February 15, 2018 between the Borough and the Municipal Authority. Mrs. Forsha stated that a meeting summary is to be forwarded to the Borough for further discussion regarding implementation of a storm water fee.*

*Sewer Department New Business*

*Mrs. Forsha informed the Board that a Sewer NPDES inspection was conducted by the DEP and she has not yet received the report from the DEP. In addition, Mrs. Forsha stated that several inches of rain caused 26 hours of bypass pumping at the sewer plan. In addition, Mrs. Forsha mentioned that a pump failure at the Route 217 pump station caused a sewer backup at 1116 Route 217.*

*Next, on a motion by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Quinlisk all members voted to enter executive session at 8:30 p.m.*

*The Board exited executive session at 9:24 p.m.*

*On a motion put forward by Mr. Quinlisk and seconded by Mr. Thomas all members voted to adjourn at 9:24 p.m. o'clock.*

*Mr. Daniel D. Chaney Sr.  
Assistant Secretary*